

BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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Eastern Nevada BIA Recruiting Summer Wildland Firefighters and Camp Crew Workers

The Eastern Nevada Agency (ENA) of the Bureau of Indian Affairs is still accepting applications through April 15 for on-call wildland firefighters for the upcoming fire season.

“We have had a lot of applications so far, and we would like to remind anyone who is interested to submit an application before the April 15th deadline”, said ENA Assistant Fire Management Officer Dylan Rader. “We hope to have enough firefighters to put together at least two hand crews this season.”

A firefighting hand crew consists of 20 men and women who travel to fires throughout the United States, for up to 20 days at a time. They work long hours in remote locations constructing fire lines to halt the spread of wildfires. In past years, local ENA firefighters have fought fire across the western United States. In addition, they were assigned to the NASA Space Shuttle Columbia Recovery Effort in 2003 and Hurricane Katrina and Rita Recovery Efforts in the Gulf Coast region in 2005.

“Even though the fire crews are only activated and paid during fires or emergencies, it is an excellent opportunity to gain firefighter training, experience, and earn money at the same time,” Rader continued.

Firefighters must be 18 years old prior to June 6, 2006, must be a U.S. citizen, and must pass a pre-employment physical fitness test and drug test. The fitness test, or “pack test”, consists of a three mile hike over flat ground in 45 minutes or less, while carrying a 45 pound pack.

The Eastern Nevada Agency is also accepting applications through May 1, 2006, for camp crew workers for the upcoming fire season. Camp crew members provide support for logistical needs in fire camps. Camp crew workers must be 16 years old prior to June 1, 2006, must be a U.S. citizen, and must pass a pre-employment physical fitness test and drug test. The fitness test consists of a one-mile hike over flat ground in 16 minutes or less with no pack.

Applications are available from the front desk at the Elko BLM Office, 3900 E. Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada or at the Te-Moak Tribal Administration building, 525 Sunset Street in Elko. Wages for camp crew workers and wildland firefighters range from \$9.96 to \$12.84 depending on experience and qualifications. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

For more information, contact ENA Assistant Fire Management Officer Dylan Rader at 775-753-0395.

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